## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing virtual routing forwarding (VRF) tables at a provider edge (PE) router of a L3 virtual private network (VPN), said PE router maintaining a VPN-IP master routing information base (RIB) and a sub-RIB for each said VRF table, comprising:

maintaining an import route target (ImpRT) tree comprising all ImpRT attributes currently configured on said PE router;

modifying an ImpRT attribute of a first VRF table in said PE router;

searching said ImpRT tree for a match to said modified ImpRT attribute to identify a second VRF table in said PE router having a matching ImpRT attribute;

for peers supporting a route refresh feature, performing a route refresh operation only when said match is not found;

for peers that do not support the route refresh feature, maintaining rejected routes in a rejected routes tree;

searching for routes in a sub-RIB associated with said second VRF table; and

copying said routes from said sub-RIB into said first VRF table based on all route target attributes configured for said first VRF table, including said modified ImpRT attribute.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

maintaining a list of all ImpRT attributes at a PE node with said ImpRT tree, each ImpRT attribute being associated with all VRF tables that are currently configured with said modified ImpRT attribute.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

adding said modified ImpRT attribute to said first VRF table.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

updating said ImpRT tree to include an association between said modified ImpRT attribute and said first VRF table.

6-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

adding said routes to each VRF table in a routing database available at said PE router.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said searching is performed through said master RIB.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said master RIB includes all routes in all VRF tables at said PE router and further includes all routes that were filtered out at said PE router using ImpRT attributes.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

removing said ImpRT from said first VRF table.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

parsing all routes in said first VRF table and removing all routes from said first VRF table that no longer match said ImpRT of said first VRF table.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

deleting all routes that no longer match from the sub-RIB of said first VRF table.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

deleting in said master RIB every route that no longer matches any ImpRT attribute in said ImpRT tree.

15-18. (Canceled)